

INFORMATION REPORT

SECRET

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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

SUBJECT Leipzig Spring Fair
(28 February - 9 March 1955)

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This is UNEVALUATED
Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. The number of East German official personnel who are to attend the 1955 Leipzig Spring Fair (approximately 28 February to 9 March) will be limited to 60% of the number which attended last year. Several reasons for the above reduction have been advanced. If there are fewer visitors to Leipzig, fewer consumer goods will have to be available to that area. In addition, the East German State Treasury will have to pay fewer persons per diem allowances while at the Fair. These allowances have been cut from 17 and 18 DME to 12 and 13 DME according to the rank of the visitor. While the former allowances were just adequate for a careful spender, the new allowances are definitely less than the daily required amount of money. It is assumed that the cut in per diem allowances will result in fewer official requests to attend the Fair. 25X1
2. A number of import agreements have been reached with foreign suppliers. Contracts for these imports have not been signed as yet. They will be signed at the Leipzig Fair, so that the record of contracts signed, whether for export or import, will be greater than would otherwise be the case. 25X1
3. An agreement has already been reached [redacted] to exhibit the exact welding equipment, in kind and amounts, that is needed by East Germany. East Germany will accept the welding equipment from the exhibitors as payment for the rental fees and the East German currency made available to [redacted] exhibitors. This specifically known case is undoubtedly duplicated by other cases involving exhibitors of machines and similar equipment of interest to the Ministries for Heavy Industry and Machine Construction. 25X1
4. While at times the personnel of enterprises which have plants [redacted] have been encouraged to maintain contact with the [redacted] enterprise, it is also feared that through such connections some [redacted] exhibitors will exhibit and "sell" (see paragraph 3 above) certain goods and materials that could be produced in East Germany. The East German government fears that East German personnel with contacts in the Western branches would not expand the production capacities of the East German branches to such an extent. 25X1

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STATE #	ARMY	NAVY	AIR	FBI	AEC
X	X	X	X	X	

(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

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that they would seriously compete with  enterprises
of which they were once an integral part.

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